

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)

OKUMURA et al.)

Application Number: To be Assigned)

Filed: Concurrently Herewith)

For: MASS SPECTROMETER AND METHOD OF USE)

ATTORNEY DOCKET No. HITA.0487)

P. V. Moore
1/10/06

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of February 24, 2003, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2003-045345.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2003-045345 is being submitted herewith. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

[Signature]
Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
January 5, 2004